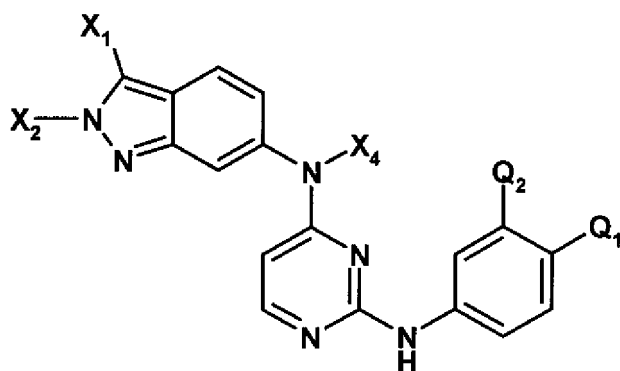


Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims:

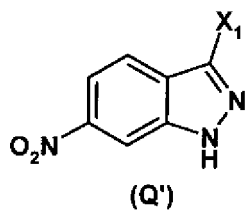
1. (Cancelled)
2. (Original) A process for preparing a compound of formula (I)



(I)

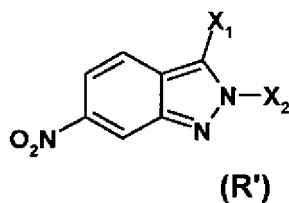
comprising the step of:

reacting a compound of formula (Q')



with an alkylating agent to prepare a compound of formula (R'),

wherein:



X₁ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl;

X₂ is C₁-C₄ alkyl or benzyl;

X₄ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl;

Q₁ is A¹ or A²;

Q₂ is A¹ when Q₁ is A² and Q₂ is A² when Q₁ is A¹;

wherein

A¹ is hydrogen, halogen, C₁-C₃ alkyl, C₁-C₃ haloalkyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, and

A² is the group defined by -(Z)_m-(Z¹)-(Z²), wherein

Z is C(R')(R''), where R' and R'' are independently selected from -H or C₁-C₄ alkyl, or R' and R'' together with the carbon to which they are attached form a C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl group and m is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

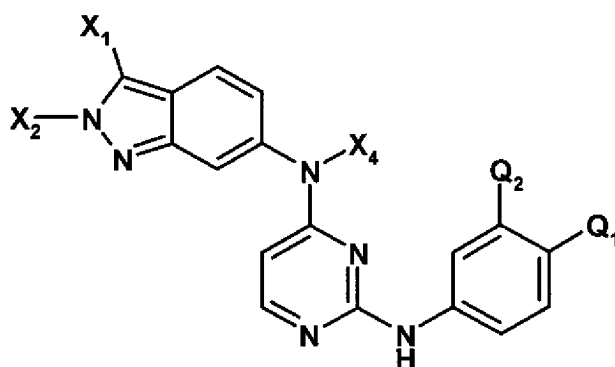
Z¹ is S(O)₂, S(O), or C(O); and

Z² is C₁-C₄ alkyl, NR¹R², aryl, arylamino, aralkyl, aralkoxy, or heteroaryl,

R¹ and R² are each independently selected from hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, -S(O)₂R³, and -C(O)R³; and

R³ is C₁-C₄ alkyl or C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl.

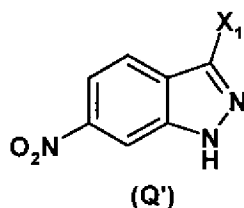
3. (Original) A process for preparing a compound of formula (I)



(I)

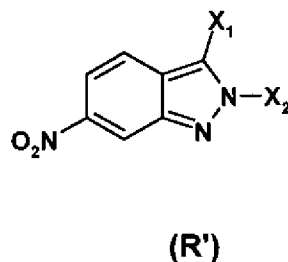
comprising the steps of:

(i) reacting a compound of formula (Q')

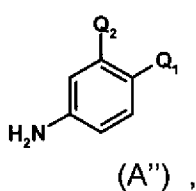
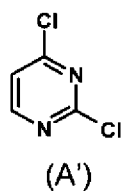


with an alkylating agent to prepare a compound of formula (R'),

; and



(ii) converting the compound of formula (R') to the compound of formula (I), said converting step comprising serial condensation with a compound of formula (A') and then a compound of formula (A'')



wherein:

X₁ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl;

X₂ is C₁-C₄ alkyl or benzyl;

X₄ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl;

Q₁ is A¹ or A²;

Q₂ is A¹ when Q₁ is A² and Q₂ is A² when Q₁ is A¹;

wherein

A¹ is hydrogen, halogen, C₁-C₃ alkyl, C₁-C₃ haloalkyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, and

A² is the group defined by -(Z)_m-(Z¹)-(Z²), wherein

Z is C(R')(R''), where R' and R'' are independently selected from -H or C₁-C₄ alkyl, or R' and R'' together with the carbon to which they are attached form a C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl group and m is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

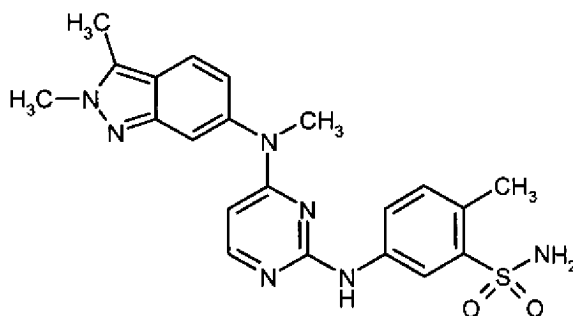
Z¹ is S(O)₂, S(O), or C(O); and

Z² is C₁-C₄ alkyl, NR¹R², aryl, arylamino, aralkyl, aralkoxy, or heteroaryl,

R¹ and R² are each independently selected from hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, -S(O)₂R³, and -C(O)R³; and

R³ is C₁-C₄ alkyl or C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl.

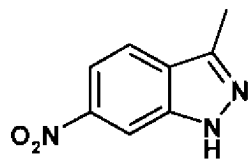
4. (New) A process for preparing a compound of the formula



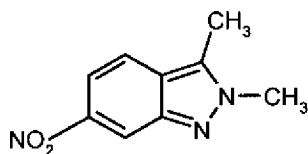
or a salt thereof,

comprising the step of:

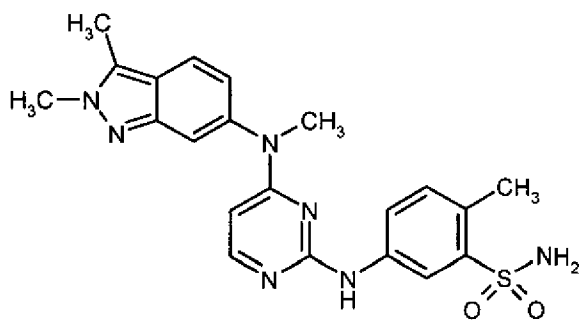
reacting a compound of the formula



with an alkylating agent to prepare a compound of the formula

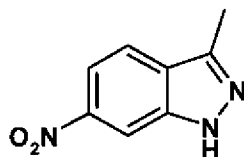


5. (New) A process for preparing a compound of the formula

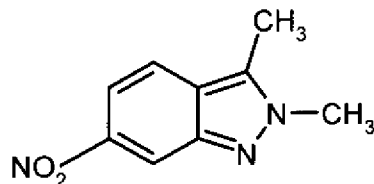


or a salt thereof,
comprising the steps of:

(i) reacting a compound of the formula

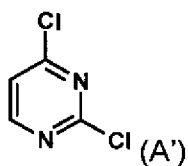


with an alkylating agent to prepare a compound of the formula

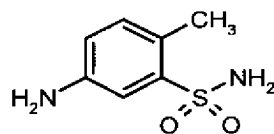


; and

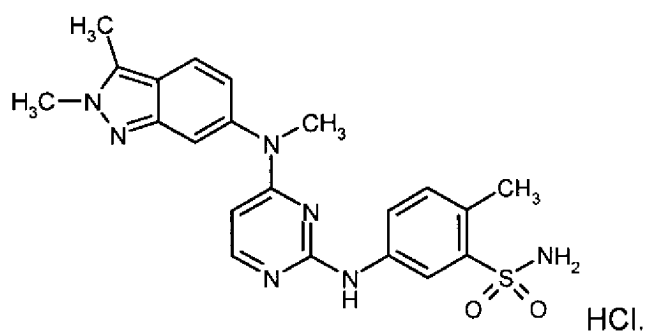
(ii) converting the compound 2,3-dimethyl-6-nitro-2H-indazole to the compound 5-({4-[(2,3-dimethyl-2H-indazol-6-yl)(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-2-yl}amino)-2-methylbenzenesulfonamide, said converting step comprising serial condensation with a compound of formula (A')



and then a compound of the formula



6. (New) The process as claimed in claim 5 for preparing a compound of the formula



7. (New) The process as claimed in claim 6 for preparing a compound of the formula

